

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action mailed December 29, 2006, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive to that office action. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-20 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-20 of copending Application No. 10/442,487, filed May 21, 2003.

The Applicants are submitting a terminal disclaimer concurrent with this Response. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes there is no fee associated with the filing of this response, however, should there be a fee due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees or credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

All rejections having been addressed, applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

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